(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) Government are aware of the presentation made by the Director General of the ILO on 15th Feb., 2000 in the UNCATAD Conference at Bangkok wherein he, *inter alia* stated that structural adjustment programmes in many developing countries had ended up increasing poverty and insecurity.

(b) to (d) Globalisation is providing enormous new opportunities but there are many reasons for concern also. Economic activities have informalised and jobs become more precarious in a search for competitiveness. Inequality has widened both within and between countries. Unstable global financial systems have generated crisis with enormous social costs in terms of unemployment and poverty. However, globalisation is no a policy option, it is a reality. Taking all these factors into consideration Government are trying through policies and programmes to minimise the social cost of globalisation. The existing social security legislations such as Employees Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act and Employees State Insurance Act cover by and large the entire workforce in the organized sector. However, it may not be feasible at this stage of development for the Government to provide unemployment benefit to those who are unemployed in the rural and urban informal and formal sectors.

Equal wages of contract labourers

1356. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that contract labours working in Central Public Sector are not getting any statutory benefit because of the confusion created on appropriate Government;

(b) whether Indian Labour Conference and Standing Committee on Labour has recommended to amend the Act for change of the definition of Appropriate Government; and

(c) whether contract labours in public sector and private sector are not getting the equal wages and other benefits equivalent to the benefits and wages of regular employees although they are doing the same work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Indian Labour Conference recommended that the powers of the Central Government as 'Appropriate Government' under the Contract Labour

(Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970 should be delegated to the State Governments as has been done under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

(c) The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Central Rules, 1971 provides that where the workman employed by the contractor performs the same or similar kind of work as the workmen directly employed by the principal employer of the establishment, the wage rates, holidays, hours of work and other conditions of service of the workmen of the contractor shall be the same as applicable to the workmen directly employed by the principal employer of the establishment on the same or similar kind of work. In case of disagreement with regard to the type of work, the aggrieved workmen can file an application before the competent authority, viz. the Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) for remedial action. Moreover, specific cases of violation of this provision brought to the notice of the Government are referred to the enforcement authority prescribed under the Act for appropriate action.

Average wages in organised sector

1357. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the figure of employed people in organised sector, public sector and private sector, separately, State-wise; and

(b) average wages earned by the employed people in public and private sector, separately, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) State-wise number of persons employed in organised sector, public and private sector, separately, as on 31.3.1999 is given in Statement-I (*See* below).

(b) Wages are fixed by various organisations/establishments after negotiations with employee's union and vary form establishments to establishments and from occupations to occupations. Therefore, the average wages earned in the organised sector is not uniform and hence not maintained. However, rates of minimum wages in the schedule employment are fixed both by the Central and State Government under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948. A Statement indicating minimum rates of wages for unskilled workers as fixed/revised by various State/UT Governments in schedule employment is given in Statement-II (*See* below). The minimum wages in schedule employment under Central Sector is given in Statement-III below.